

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 OMB-01

MC-02 ABF-01 AID-20 L-03 EB-11 RSR-01 /108 W

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R 271126Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4764

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USMTM DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3675

SECDEF FOR ISA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PK, SA

SUBJ: DISPOSAL OF SAUDI F-86'S/T-33'S

REF: (A) STATE 122190; (B) JIDDA 3104

SUMMARY: PRINCE SULTAN HAS WE THINK FINALLY AGREED TO
USG SUGGESTIONS RE DISPOSAL F-86'S AND RELATED EQUIPMENT.
MODA WILL PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH LETTER REQUESTING APPROVAL
FOR TRANSFER OF CERTAIN ITEMS TO PAKISTAN PLUS INVENTORY
OF ITEMS IN QUESTION. SAG WILL RETAIN WEAPONS, AMMUNI-
TION AND AIR FRAMES (AND WILL EMPLOY LATTER AS MUSEUM
DISPLAYS AND GUNNERY TARGETS).

1. TOWARD END OF AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH PRINCE
SULTAN AUGUST 26, PRINCE ONCE AGAIN ALLUDED TO PROBLEM
SAG FACED DISPOSING OF OBSOLETE F-86'S AND T-33'S.
SINCE THERE APPEARED TO BE NO POSSIBILITY OF PURCHASE
BY USG, AND SINCE SAG APPARENTLY COULD NOT TRANSFER AIR-
CRAFT IN TOTO TO PAKISTAN, PRINCE WONDERED IF USG WOULD
OBJECT TO THEIR SALE EITHER TO GERMANY OR TO IRAN.
AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT USG WOULD OF COURSE BE PREPARED
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CONSIDER SUCH A REQUEST BUT BEFORE APPROVING IT WOULD

WISH TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES OF PURCHASER THAT AIRCRAFT
WOULD NOT THEREAFTER BE TRANSFERRED ONWARD TO SOME OTHER
0953,58-) 3,\$ 7 34, PAKISTAN FOR EXAMPLE. PRINCE LAUGHED.

2. SULTAN NEXT SOUGHT TO REAFFIRM HIS UNDERSTANDING OF
DISPOSAL POLICY EARLIER SUGGESTED BY USG. WAS HE CORRECT
IN BELIEVING THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF AIR FRAMES, WEAPONS
AND AMMUNITION, ALL F-86 EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS ELIGIBLE
FOR TRANSFER TO PAKISTAN? AMBASSADOR CONFIRMED THIS WAS SO,
WHEREUPON SULTAN CONCLUDED HE WOULD NOW RAISE MATTER WITH
KING TO INFORM HIM THAT SAG COULD -- WITH US CONCURRENCE --
PROVIDE CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE TO BROTHERLY PAKISTAN
WITH REGARD TO JET AIRCRAFT. SAG WOULD STUDY DISPOSAL
OPTIONS FOR AIR FRAMES (INCLUDING MUSEUM DISPLAY AND
TARGET PRACTICE). PRINCE OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD BE NICE
IF USG COULD MAKE SOME OFFER FOR GUNS/AMMUNITION; WHEN
AMBASSADOR REMAINED SILENT SULTAN ADDED, "WELL, THE
IMPORTANT THING IS TO CLEAR OUR HANGARS AND WAREHOUSES
OF F-86'S AND RELATED MATERIEL." QUESTION OF WEAPONS
AND AMMO DID NOT ARISE AGAIN.

3. AMBASSADOR CONGRATULATED PRINCE ON HIS DECISION
AND ASKED FOR LETTER (A) REQUESTING PERMISSION TO TRANSFER
CERTAIN ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT TO PAKISTAN AND (B) DETAILED
INVENTORY OF EQUIPMENT CONCERNED. UPON LETTER'S RECEIPT
AMBASSADOR WOULD URGE WASHINGTON TO APPROVE PROPOSAL
QUICKLY.
THACHER

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Message Attributes

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